GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2865
ANSWERED ON:19.03.2007
ASSISTANCE FOR CONSTRUCTION OF GODOWNS
Tripathy Shri Braja Kishore

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government provides assistance to the State Governments/UT Administrations for strengthening the Public Distribution System and construction of godowns;

(b) if so, the details of the assistance provided and utilised during the last three years, State-wise and year-wise;

(c) the number of godowns constructed and capacity added under the scheme during the said period State-wise, year-wise; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government for smooth flow of PDS commodities particularly in rural, remote, hilly and tribal areas?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b): The state-wise, year-wise details of the assistance provided for strengthening the Public Distribution System are given in the statement at Annex-I.

From the year 2005-06 the Government is providing financial assistance for construction of storage godowns under Plan Scheme in the form of Grants-in-Aid to the State Governments of North East Region including Sikkim and Jammu & Kashmir. The details of the Grants in Aid released to the State Governments during the year 2005-06 and 2006-07 are given in the Statement at Annex-II.

(c): As per the time schedule finalized, the storage godowns at Champhai (3,000 MTs) and Serchib (3,000 MTs) in the Mizoram are to be completed within 18 months from the date of release of funds. As regards Lethpora (6,160 MTs) in Jammu & Kashmir, the godown is scheduled to be completed within 12 months from the date of release of funds.

(d): The following steps have been taken by the Government for smooth flow of Public Distribution commodities particularly in rural, remote, hilly and tribal areas:-

(i) Introduction of Door Step Delivery and tracking the movement of foodgrains upto the Fair Price Shop level.

(ii) Prompt information flow/computerization of TPDS.

(iii) Streamlining the involvement of wholesale dealers/intermediaries in the TPDS.

(iv) Introduction of Electronic Transfer of Funds to FCI.

(v) Review of BPL and AAY list in the States/UTs.

(vi) Display of banners/Boards on wind shield as well as rear end of the truck/vehicles carrying PDS articles indicating details of State Government, destination, commodity and Agent`s name.

(vii) Opening of Godowns at Principal Distribution Centres (PDCs) in predominantly Hilly States with difficult and inaccessible terrain and reimbursing the State Governments/UTs the cost of transportation of foodgrains on actual basis under the Hill Transport Subsidy Scheme (HTS).